

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims - This will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a body;

a keyboard upon said body including at least one key having at least two different functions associated with the key, a first function if the key is activated with a terminating hand member of the right hand and a second different function if the key is activated with a terminating hand member of the left hand; and

a detection mechanism to indicate, prior to an activation of the key by one of the terminating members, which one of said first function and said second function is to be associated with the activation, the detection mechanism indicating the first function when movement of a terminating member of the right hand toward the key is detected and the detection mechanism indicating the second function when movement of a terminating member of the left hand toward the key is detected, determine—whether a user's terminating hand member used to activate the key with two associated functions is located on the user's right hand or left hand, said detection mechanism being equipped to monitor movement of at least a portion of at least one of the user's two hands toward the key.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said detection mechanism comprises a camera.
3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said detection mechanism further comprises logic to temporally analyze a plurality of images from said camera, said images including positions of said user's terminating hand member.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said camera is integrated with said body.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said detection mechanism includes at least one terminating hand member sensor.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said terminating hand member sensor is equipped to detect when a corresponding terminating hand member is in a non-use position.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said detection mechanism comprises at least one pressure sensor.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said at least one pressure sensor comprises a sensor to detect pressure on a side of said body, said side corresponding to said determined terminating hand member.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said detection mechanism comprises at least one motion detector to monitor movement of at least a portion of at least one of the user's two hands toward the key.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said motion detector is to detect motions associated with a key activation.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the apparatus is a selected one of a wireless mobile phone and a personal digital assistant.

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising: a body; a keyboard upon said body including at least one key having at least two different functions associated with the key, a first function if the key is activated by a terminating hand member of a user's right hand, and a second different function if the key is activated by a terminating hand

member of a user's left hand; and a camera to monitor movement of a user's terminating hand members with respect to said keyboard, said monitoring of movement to facilitate provision of, prior to activation of the key, an indicia of the first or the second function being associated with key, depending on whether a user's terminating hand member that will be used to activate the key with at least two associated functions is determined to be located on the user's left hand or right hand.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein said monitoring of movement comprises temporally analyzing a plurality of images from said camera, said images including positions of said user's terminating hand members.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising: a body; a keyboard upon said body including at least one key having at least two different functions associated with the key, a first function if the key is activated by a terminating hand member of a user's right hand, and a second different function if the key is activated by a terminating hand member of a user's left hand; and at least one pressure sensor to monitor movement of a user's terminating hand members with respect to said keyboard toward the key, said monitoring of terminating hand member movement to facilitate providing an indicia of whether the first or the second function is associated with key, prior to activation of the key, of depending on whether a terminating hand member of said user that will be used to activate the key with at least two different associated functions is determined to be located on the user's right hand or left hand.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein said at least one pressure sensor comprises a sensor to detect pressure on a side of said body.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said side corresponds to said determined terminating hand member.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising: a body; a keyboard upon said body including at least one a key having at least two different functions associated with the key, a first function if the key is activated by a terminating hand member of a user's right hand, and a second different function if the key is activated by a terminating hand member of a user's left hand; and a motion sensor to monitor movement of a user's terminating hand members toward the key, said monitoring of terminating hand member movement to facilitate providing an indicia of whether the first or the second function is associated with key, prior to activation of the key, depending on whether a terminating hand member that will be used to activate the key on said body, said monitoring of movement to provide an indicia of whether a user's terminating hand member used to activate a key of said keyboard is determined to be located on the user's right hand or left hand.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 wherein said motion sensor is a MicroElectroMechanical Systems (MEMS) device.

19. (Currently Amended) In an electronic device comprising a keyboard and having a plurality of input keys, including at least a first one key having associated with it at least two character values, a first character value if the first key is activated by a terminating hand member of a user's right hand, and a second different character value if the first key is activated by a terminating hand member of a user's left hand, a method comprising: determining, prior to an activation of the first key, whether a terminating hand member of the user moving toward used to activate the first key with at least two character values is located on the user's right hand or on the user's left hand; and assigning one of said first or second character value to an activation of said first key, based at least in part upon said determination, the assigned character to be inputted upon activation of the first key within a period of time from the determination.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19 further comprising: assigning a second determining that the period of time has elapsed and the activation of the first key has not occurred within the period of time; and assigning the other of the first or second character value to said activation of said first key, wherein said activation occurs after delay time from said determining that the period of time has elapsed.

21. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein said determining comprises monitoring movement of at least a portion of at least one of a user's two hands.

22. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein said determining comprises temporally analyzing a plurality of images, said images including positions of said user's terminating hand members.